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CIA-PRESS

BY MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN

WASHINGTON (AP) -- THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE STEP TO LOWER ITS PROFILE, IS CUTTING THE SIZE STAFF IN HALF.

CIA DIRECTOR WILLIAM CASEY HAS ORDERED THE P PUBLIC-AFFAIRS OFFICE AND ITS OFFICE OF LEGISL ABOLISHED, AND THEIR FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO AND SPOKESMAN HERBERT HETU SAID TUESDAY.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS WILL EXTERNAL-AFFAIRS STAFF OF THE AGENCY'S OFFICE WHICH IS HEADED BY ROBERT M. GATES, HETU SAID. EFFECT WEDNESDAY.

HETU SAID THE STAFF AVAILABLE FOR DEALING I INQUIRIES WOULD BE CUT FROM 14 TO SIX OR SEVEI

IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT HETU OPPOSED THE CH SUCCESS OF THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE IN CREAT OF THE AGENCY'S FUNCTIONS WAS GROUNDS FOR CON ENDING IT. HETU, A FORMER NAVY CAPTAIN, JOINED THE CIA IN 1977 AND WILL BE LEAVING AFTER THE CHANGE.

IT WAS LEARNED THAT THE HEAD OF THE NEW PUBLIC AFFAIRS BRANCH WILL BE MARSHALL DOSWELL, WHO HAS BEEN VICE PRESIDENT FOR CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS WITH SPRINGS MILLS IN RICHMOND, VA.

FRED WITZ, WHO HAS BEEN LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL, WILL BE REPLACED IN THAT FUNCTION, BUT THE NAME OF HIS SUCCESSOR WAS NOT BE LEARNED.

CASEY ANNOUNCED THE CHANGES IN A LETTER TO AGENCY EMPLOYEES LAST WEEK.

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